

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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AI
1. An automatic manhour setting system for giving manhour data to work standard data converted into computer data, comprising:
    - 5 a standard manhour database designed to be readable, in which a number of pairs each constituted by a work standard described by a standardized standard expression and a manhour corresponding to the work standard are registered in advance;
    - 10 setting means for, for each of target work standards to which manhours are to be given, matching an expression of the target work standard with the standard expressions of the work standards in said standard manhour database and setting a standard manhour of a
    - 15 matching work standard in said database as a manhour of the target work standard; and
    - manhour file means for storing a set manhour file.
  2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the target work standard to which the manhour is
  - 20 to be given is described by an operation phrase representing an operation of a work, an object phrase representing a target of the operation, and a comment phrase representing auxiliary information related to the operation and/or object, and
  - 25 each of the work standards in said database is also described by an operation phrase, object phrase,

and comment phrase.

3. The system according to claim 1, wherein  
for the target work standard to which the manhour  
is to be given, a first comment related to an object of  
5 an operation, an object phrase representing the object  
of the operation, a second comment related to the  
operation, and an operation phrase representing the  
operation of the work are described in a predetermined  
order, and

10 for each of the work standards in said database, a  
first comment, object phrase, second comment, and  
operation phrase are also described in the predetermined  
order.

4. The system according to claim 1, wherein said  
15 setting means preferentially executes search based on  
complete matching between the expression of the target  
work standard and the standard expression of the work  
standard in said standard manhour database.

5. The system according to claim 4, wherein said  
20 setting means uses search based on partial matching for  
the target work standard for which the search based on  
complete matching to the standard expression of the work  
standard in said standard manhour database fails.

6. The system according to claim 4, wherein, when the  
25 search of the expression of the target work standard in  
said standard manhour database fails, said setting means

executes search in a second manhour database whose degree of standardization is lower than that of said standard manhour database.

7. The system according to claim 5, wherein the expression included in the target work standard includes an expression by a wild card.

8. The system according to claim 7, wherein, when a plurality of standard work standards which match a work standard including an expression including a wild card symbol are present, candidates are displayed in a descending order of the degrees of matching to cause the user to select any one of the candidates.

9. The system according to claim 1, wherein standard manhour data in said standard manhour database contains a manhour value and data related to a set condition when the manhour value is set.

10. The system according to claim 9, wherein the condition data is referred to by a directory in a memory space of said automatic manhour setting system, and

said setting means sets a directory value of the searched set condition data of the work standard as the manhour of the target work standard.

11. The system according to claim 6, further comprising analysis means for analyzing the work standard to assign the manhour when no matching is

obtained by searching the second manhour database.

12. The system according to claim 6, further comprising analysis means for analyzing the work standard to assign the manhour when no matching is  
5 obtained by searching said standard manhour database.

13. The system according to claim 11, wherein said analysis means uses a creation tool with the same reference as that in creating contents of said standard manhour database.

10 14. The system according to claim 12, wherein said analysis means uses a creation tool with the same reference as that in creating contents of said second manhour database.

15 15. The system according to claim 1, wherein further comprising download means for downloading a plurality of work standard data to which manhours are to be given.

16. The system according to claim 1, wherein  
the plurality of downloadable work standard are  
stored in an external database, and  
20 said download means comprises  
means for downloading directories of the  
downloadable work standards from the external database  
and displaying the directories, and  
selection means for selecting an arbitrary one of  
25 the displayed directories, thereby selecting the target  
work standard to which the manhour is to be given.

17. The system according to claim 16, wherein  
the external database stores the downloadable work  
standards having a hierarchical structure according to  
the degree of assembly,

5 said download means downloads upper directories to  
said manhour setting system together with the  
directories of the downloadable work standards,

said display means displays the downloaded work  
standard directories and upper directories together, and

10 said selection means can designate to select  
whether one of the displayed work standard directories  
or upper directories.

18. A distributed client/server database system  
comprising:

15 a server including said manhour setting system of  
claim 1; and

a plurality of clients each having said setting  
means of claim 1.

19. An automatic manhour setting method of giving  
20 manhour data to work standard data converted into  
computer data, comprising steps of:

registering a number of pairs each constituted by  
a work standard described by a standardized standard  
expression and a manhour corresponding to the work  
25 standard in advance in a standard manhour database  
designed to be readable;

for each of target work standards to which  
manhours are to be given, matching an expression of the  
target work standard with the standard expressions of  
the work standards in the standard manhour database and  
5 setting a standard manhour of a matching work standard  
in the database as a manhour of the target work  
standard; and

storing a set manhour file.

20. The method according to claim 19, wherein  
10 the target work standard to which the manhour is  
to be given is described by an operation phrase  
representing an operation of a work, an object phrase  
representing a target of the operation, and a comment  
phrase representing auxiliary information related to the  
15 operation and/or object, and

each of the work standards in the database is also  
described by an operation phrase, object phrase, and  
comment phrase.

21. The method according to claim 19, wherein  
20 for the target work standard to which the manhour  
is to be given, a first comment related to an object of  
an operation, an object phrase representing the object  
of the operation, a second comment related to the  
operation, and an operation phrase representing the  
25 operation of the work are described in a predetermined  
order, and

for each of the work standards in the database, a first comment, object phrase, second comment, and operation phrase are also described in the predetermined order.

5 22. The method according to claim 19, wherein, in said setting step, preferentially search based on complete matching between the expression of the target work standard and the standard expression of the work standard in the standard manhour database is executed.

10 23. The method according to claim 22, wherein, in said setting step, search based on partial matching for the target work standard for which the search based on complete matching to the standard expression of the work standard in the standard manhour database fails is  
15 executed.

24. The method according to claim 22, wherein, when the search of the expression of the target work standard in the standard manhour database fails, executing search in a second manhour database whose degree of  
20 standardization is lower than that of the standard manhour database is executed in said setting step.

25. The method according to claim 23, wherein the expression included in the target work standard includes an expression by a wild card.

25 26. The method according to claim 25, when a plurality of standard work standards which match a work standard

including an expression including a wild card symbol are present, candidates are displayed in a descending order of the degrees of matching to cause the user to select any one of the candidates.

5 27. The method according to claim 19, wherein standard manhour data in the standard manhour database contains a manhour value and data related to a set condition when the manhour value is set.

28. The method according to claim 27, wherein  
10 the condition data is referred to by a directory in a memory space of the automatic manhour setting system, and

in said setting step, a directory value of the searched set condition data of the work standard is set  
15 as the manhour of the target work standard.

29. The method according to claim 24, further comprising an analysis step of analyzing the work standard to assign the manhour when no matching is obtained by searching the second manhour database.

20 30. The method according to claim 24, further comprising an analysis step of analyzing the work standard to assign the manhour when no matching is obtained by searching the standard manhour database.

31. The method according to claim 29, wherein, in said  
25 analysis step, a creation tool is used with the same reference as that in creating contents of the standard



manhour database.

32. The method according to claim 30, wherein, in said analysis step, a creation tool is used with the same reference as that in creating contents of the second  
5 manhour database.

33. The method according to claim 19, further comprising a download step of downloading a plurality of work standard data to which manhours are to be given.

34. The method according to claim 19, wherein  
10 the plurality of downloadable work standard are stored in an external database, and  
said download step comprises steps of  
downloading directories of the downloadable work standards from the external database and displaying the  
15 directories, and

selecting an arbitrary one of the displayed directories, thereby selecting the target work standard to which the manhour is to be given.

35. The method according to claim 34, wherein  
20 the external database stores the downloadable work standards having a hierarchical structure according to the degree of assembly,

in said download step, upper directories are downloaded to the manhour setting system together with  
25 the directories of the downloadable work standards,  
in said display step, the downloaded work standard

directories and upper directories are displayed together, and

in said selection step, whether one of the displayed work standard directories or upper directories is selected.

36. The method according to claim 35, wherein the hierarchical structure according to the degree of assembly is formed by putting the plurality of work standards together into an upper work group and giving a group identifier to each of the groups put together.

37. The method according to claim 36, wherein the work group is classified into one of a component group formed from a plurality of work standards, a model group formed from a plurality of components, and a genre group formed from a plurality of models.

38. The method according to claim 19, wherein the manhour file has, for each work standard, a field where a log of addition and correction related to the manhour is recorded.

39. The system according to claim 1, wherein the manhour file has, for each work standard, a field where a log of addition and correction related to the manhour is recorded.

40. The system according to claim 39, further comprising means for referring to the log field.

41. A computer program storage medium which stores

program codes of said automatic manhour setting method to realize said automatic manhour setting method of claim 19 by a computer system.

42. The system according to claim 2, wherein

5       for the target work standard to which the manhour is to be given, a first comment related to an object of an operation, an object phrase representing the object of the operation, a second comment related to the operation, and an operation phrase representing the  
10 operation of the work are described in a predetermined order, and

          for each of the work standards in said database, a first comment, object phrase, second comment, and operation phrase are also described in the predetermined  
15 order.

43. The method according to claim 20, wherein

          for the target work standard to which the manhour is to be given, a first comment related to an object of an operation, an object phrase representing the object  
20 of the operation, a second comment related to the operation, and an operation phrase representing the operation of the work are described in a predetermined order, and

          for each of the work standards in the database, a  
25 first comment, object phrase, second comment, and operation phrase are also described in the predetermined order.